

Educational Supplement

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Break

What region?

If devolution to English regions is to be seriously considered, then the North-west would be a prime candidate for semi-autonomous status.

On the map, the region from Manchester to the border—Lancashire and Cumbria—with the MG as its spine, looks geographically satisfactory.

Manchester, in some sense the natural capital for such a region, has its own unique democratic civic tradition, of a peculiarly robust kind.

In 1973, before money for anything vanished, the university in pursuit of links with its region set up a centre for educational research.

research and can help disseminate research findings. Thus Krir (Clare) is a member of a group of Cumbria heads and...

But this is a Cumbria initiative, receiving its impetus mainly from the L.A. and from Michael Weston, director of studies at Clonville Mason College, Cumbria's only teacher training institution...

On the contrary, the project is owned by all the retainers of a new idea. This aim is to set up a standing conference of interested heads, senior officers of the authority, advisers and academics...

The Institute for Research and Development in post compulsory education at Lancaster provides another example of slender beginnings in regional cooperation.

David Moore's brief while at Lancaster is to try to extend the work of the Institute. In line with current fashion the university is interested in what might loosely be described as contract research for local authorities...



It's not just the free lunches. They've ended the staff take-away as well.

No value judgment

Neville Bennett is lined up at Lancaster with a large pile of computer printouts to analyse—the first stage of his Schools Council project on open plan primary schools.

The open plan study, which he is of pains to point out is a fact finding not an evaluative study (in unbroken order) at schools seen to have got the idea of open plan to sum up against them is on schedule.

The next stage is to study 24 schools in more detail. A team of three will visit the school one after another to look at the use of space, the movement of individual children and teaching groups and the school organization respectively.

But such initiatives are a far cry from any coordinated regional planning. For the most part they depend on the self-interested philanthropy of the university.

because of rising rolls, it was in 1967. Somehow the need to get approval for the expenditure was overlooked.

News has reached me of a training establishment which a number of students who have O level mathematics will not do.

The man, a pearl of necklaces, but also a colossus of rock to a man. But an ocean to most other work.

Next week If G. M. McIntosh outlines a programme for administering the 16-plus examination.

Mercury scare: DES dither on danger in labs

By Bob Doe

A government warning to science teachers about the dangers of mercury has been held up in Whitehall for four years.

The existence of the DES warning notice came to light this week after more than a hundred children in a Newcastle upon Tyne school were rushed to hospital with suspected mercury poisoning.

But, despite the false alarm, the incident highlights the considerable hazards associated with mercury. Quite apart from poisoning by contact and swallowing, it gives off a harmful vapour even at room temperature and even more so when heated.

The DES's booklet, Safety in science laboratories, mentions that dangerous amounts can build up in poorly ventilated laboratories and that even in very low concentrations the vapours are very toxic over a long period.

Pearl or rock?

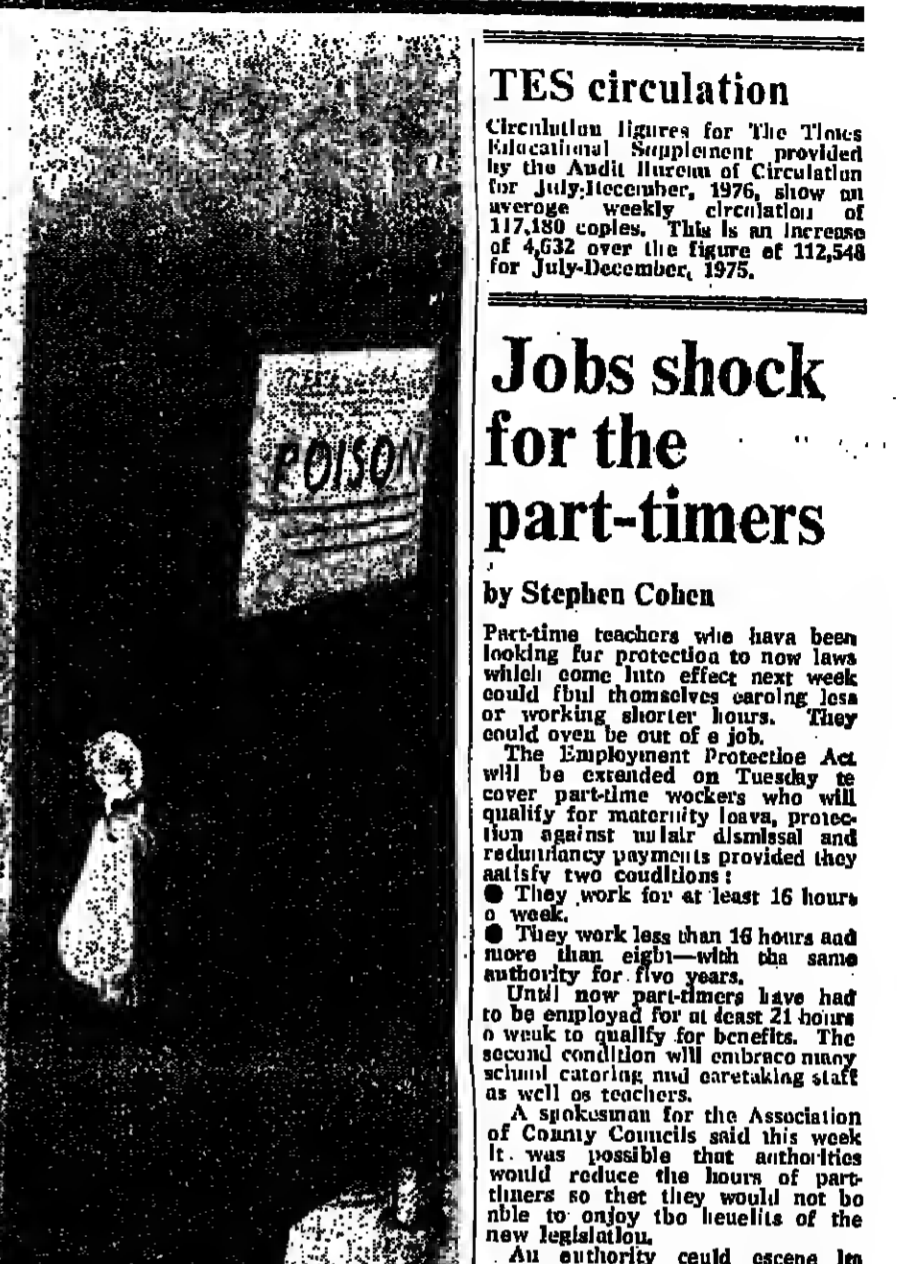
By Bob Doe

The man, a pearl of necklaces, but also a colossus of rock to a man. But an ocean to most other work.

There are Irish jokes, Irish ball, expressions of anger and more, comments on violence, innuendo and unorthodoxly long jokes and mystery stories all that different, really, from well-adjusted literary anguishes.

There is evidence, too, of more, but extremely unpleasant, danger with mercury. A very few individuals can be made hypersensitive to it by exposure to quite small quantities, and though the existence

of such sensitizing substances is noted in the TGS safety handbook, no mention is made of mercury being one.



continued on page 3

TES circulation

Circulation figures for The Times Educational Supplement provided by the Audit Bureau of Circulation for July-December, 1976, show an average weekly circulation of 117,180 copies.

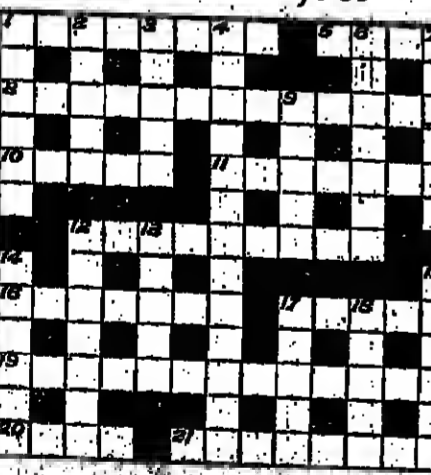
Jobs shock for the part-timers

By Stephen Cohen

Part-time teachers who have been looking for protection to new laws which came into effect next week could find themselves earning less or working shorter hours.

Until now part-timers have had to be employed for at least 21 hours a week to qualify for benefits. The second condition will embrace many school catering and caretaking staff as well as teachers.

Crossword No 1,069



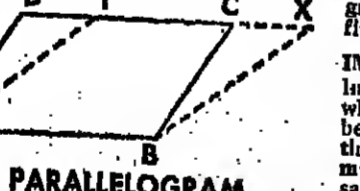
- 4 Double action at Liberty Hall (3, 2, 3, 5). 6 Impossible drink for top boxer (7). 7 Sounds of a double cake (6).

- ACROSS 1 He's getting West (5). 2 Bottled fish (4). 3 What we go to see (7).

- DOWN 1 Shakespearian with offensive weapon (6). 2 Comes in for a change (5).

Maths teasers

GEOMETRIC JIG-SAW PUZZLES



PARALLELOGRAM

(I) Can you find a method for cutting any rectangle into two pieces that can be fitted together to form a rhombus?

(II) Can you find a method for cutting any rhombus into two pieces, one a triangle and the other a trapezium, that can be fitted together to make a rectangle?

parallelogram ABCD can be cut into two pieces along the line AX in form either parallelogram ABX or with the same base AB, the same height and the same area as ABCD.

It is possible to cut every parallelogram into two pieces that can be fitted together to form a rhombus?

IMPOSSIBLE EQUATIONS In algebra textbooks, one is faced with problems like this: find a number which when 1 is added to three times the number and the sum is multiplied by 2 the result is the same as when 1 is added to twice the number and the sum is multiplied by 3.

So asking x to be the unknown number. $2(3x+1) = 3(2x+1)$ which implies that $6x + 2 = 6x + 3$, which is impossible. We conclude from this that the number x does not exist.

(a) Such problems are usually excluded from textbooks, which include only those that have a guaranteed solution. But what would answer be if asked to solve $3(2x+1) = 2(3x+2)$?

(b) Simultaneous equations usually have a unique solution: solve $y + x = 2$, $2y = 6$ has only solution, $x = -2$. But why can solutions be found to $2x - y = 4x = 7$?

(c) Solve these equations, or try to find one. (i) $2(x+1) + 3(x+2) = 4x + 3$ (ii) $(x+2) + (2x+3) = 3x + 4$ (iii) $4x + 5y = 17$, where x and y are positive integers.

(d) $5x + 6y = 19$, where x and y are positive integers. (v) $x(x+2) = x(x+4)$ (vi) $2x + 3y = 3x + 2y + 1$ (vii) $2x + 3y = 2x + 2y + 6$ (viii) $2x - 3y = 7 = 0$, and $5y = 14 = 0$.

(e) $(x+1)(x+4) = (x+2)(x+3)$ (f) $(x-1)(x+2) = (x+1)(x-2)$

D. B. EPPER

Next week

If G. M. McIntosh outlines a programme for administering the 16-plus examination.

Harry Ree and Pat D'Arcy describe the return to classroom teaching.

Third world books: historical, cultural, political, economic, anthropological—special part of book reviews.

Publishing today: Noel Hughes at the economic difficulties which British publishers are facing.

Books: Classics and religious education textbooks.

TES Extra Travel.

Moment of truth for the colleges

The college closures and reductions announced this week are the inevitable consequence of trying not to train more teachers than there are likely to be jobs (page 3).

This policy has obvious advantages. It avoids the frustration and agitation created by the existence of large numbers of unemployed young teachers. It also provides an opportunity for improving the academic standard of those entering the teaching profession. It is a pity in this respect that it is not coupled with a raised entry requirement of two A levels and O levels which include both mathematics and English. But even without such requirements, as numbers have begun to contract, so the proportion of entrants with A levels has increased.

This may be good news for schools and for teachers in training. It is however bad news for those sixth formers without two A levels who have in the past had access to higher education through teacher training. In each of the past two years some 10,000 students without A levels have gone into higher education in this way, as have some thousands of others with one A level.

This exclusion now is reflected in the revised targets for higher education. These go down from 600,000 to 560,000 (page 9). Part of this fall is accounted for by expected reductions in the numbers of overseas students, but it also includes about 15,000 people who would have gone into teacher training.

Meanwhile the institutions whose teacher training numbers are being cut are seeking to diversify into new degree and DIPLE courses, most of them validated by the CNA. All these courses normally require two A levels for 18-year-olds—though there are some notably flexible pilot projects such as that at the North-East London Polytechnic, and there is more flexibility for mature students.

The colleges now have to find a completely new clientele at a time when there is some uncertainty about the demand for higher education from qualified sixth formers. There is not much sign that anyone has given any serious thought to what the less well qualified might usefully be encouraged to do. They can go out to work—if they can get a job—for three years and then return to higher education later as mature students. They can, the DES says, go into further education, nursing, HND courses (for those with one A level), TEC and BEC courses. But the further education sector is struggling under cuts and is preoccupied with the priority it is being asked to give to 16- to 19-year-olds. Local authorities are cutting back on discretionary grants in some areas. Above all there is an overwhelming impression that the blocking off of what has been one of the main avenues to higher education, notably for young women, has been no one's particular concern.

College closures

Instability and opposition greet the announcement of cuts in training places. Reactions, page 3 Full story page 9

Irish in-fighting

Paul McGill describes the continuing debate over comprehensive reorganisation which is now raging in Northern Ireland. page 6

Engineering science

A level course pioneered by the Joint Matriculation Board fails to attract schools, universities of employers despite apparent public demand on all sides for this kind of work in schools. page 7

Exam battles

The in-fighting and suspicion between GCE and CSE boards must be abandoned—with the encouragement of co-operation of the Department of Education. H. G. Meekins describes a possible solution to the impasse over administering the 16-plus. page 17

Back to school

Harry Ree and Pat D'Arcy describe the return to classroom teaching. page 18, 19

Publishers pinched

Noel Hughes examines the financial difficulties facing British publishers and looks hopefully into the future. page 20

Third World books

Politics, history, culture, economics, sociology, anthropology—books on all these aspects of emerging countries are reviewed this week. page 21-29

BA for film buffs

Upgrading film studies to BA status was one of the points raised at the British Universities Film Council conference at Warwick. page 30

Network opens

A new information exchange column, providing a service for teachers, students, researchers, parents and others, begins today on the Talkback page. page 33

Extra: Travel

page 37-44

Classified ad

index

Swedish Budget stresses adult learning

from Mike Duckenfield

STOCKHOLM Local authority "pools" of substitute teachers to cover colleagues' absence due to in-service training, sickness, and parental child care leave are to be introduced shortly. Aimed at improving pupil security and the continuity of teaching—present substitute arrangements are often day-in-day-out—the scheme, to be heavily state subsidised, is one of several educational measures announced in the recent annual budget statement.

Planning councils in each local education authority area are also to be set up to advise school boards on work-school links. They will include employers, trade unions, and representatives from schools and employment exchanges.

Since supported, the councils will be expected to introduce measures to ease the transition from school to working life and make recommendations on vocational guidance, working conditions for youngsters and practical work experience for pupils.

The budget, for the year starting this July, is the first to be announced by Mr Ingemar Mundebo, the Budget Minister in Mr Thorbjörn Fälldin's new centre-right coalition government. Education spending is to rise 12 per cent to 17,300 Mkr (£2,471.4m) in line with the increase in overall government expenditure.

However, spending on comprehensive schools will only rise 8 per cent and that on upper secondary schools by 8 per cent. This compares with real growth for adult education (up 20 per cent), culture (up 23 per cent) and student study support (up 36 per cent). Higher education spending will hold steady with a 12 per cent increase.

In line with the Government's

All-round growth in Iceland

Nearly a quarter of Iceland's 16-year-olds now gain access to the academic upper secondary grammar school (menntaskóli) compared with 15.6 per cent a decade ago, according to a recent survey by the Ministry of Education.

The survey shows a big growth of education at all levels except the six-year primary school (barnaskóli) catering for 7-13 year-olds. However, class sizes for this age group, steady at about 22 for the 40 years until the early 1960s, have since fallen to about 18.

The number of lower secondary pupils staying on at school after 15 and taking the standardized national leaving exam (laugspráfi) a year

Big secondary sector shake-up

ROME from Patricia Clough

The Cabinet has approved one of the most important and urgently needed educational reforms since the war, that of the secondary schools.

The present system, which covers the 14-19 age group, has long been painfully out of step with the rest of Italian education and with the needs of the country as a whole.

Divided into two parts, on the one hand there were the grammar schools which prepared children for university. On the other there were the professional and specialized vocational schools which turned out the technicians and white collar workers. Pupils from these schools were barred from university.

The need for reform became particularly acute when university entrance was thrown open to all who had passed their secondary school-leaving examination. It was soon found that many of the students who flooded into the universities from, for instance, agrarian and

National plan for apprentices

COLOMBO The National Apprenticeship Board, now in its fifth year, caters to some 6,500 apprentices in some 500 training establishments, according to its annual report. It covers 88 crafts, seven technician-level, nine special and five undergraduate engineering areas.

A feature of the scheme is that the allowances of apprentices throughout their period of training are met from government funds.

The board gives financial assistance to establishments to set up basic training centres, determines the trade tests each category of apprentice must undergo and issues certificates to those who qualify.

Before legislation was enacted to set up a national training authority which would ensure a coordinated plan of development there were three different systems of training apprentices at different levels and varying entry requirements and qualifications. Each was operated independently.

D. B. Udalgamni

As the French local elections approach, education policy is threatened by the wily of the Socialist Party, which seems unsure whether it should stick to its principles and risk offending the important Catholic vote or should offer a compromise.

The crux of the debate is contained in the Socialist Party plan for education published last September. This backed the nationalization of all private schools, which was mostly Catholic.

Catholic schools have been uprooted from the state schools since the beginning of the century, but the Dohré private schools which were given struggling private schools some state aid in most teachers salaries and some of the running costs.

The priviledged position of private schools—which educate 16 per cent of the school population—has provoked considerable resentment between the Catholic minorities and the Laïcs with accusations of favoritism of the Socialists.

Mitterand's party leader M François Mitterand disavowed the so-called Mitterandism which included the nationalization of Catholic education and smothered the controversy. The official party line now is that the report was an

Socialists split over future of private institutions

from Mark Webster

INTERNAL document for consultation and discussion only.

The heated debate over the future of private education has tended to hide some of the positive suggestions which Socialists included in their proposals. These were designed to expose the shortcomings of the existing system and demonstrate the Communist and Socialist internal document for consultation and discussion only.

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OECD criticizes work links

from William Purvis

SYDNEY A detailed study of the Australian education system by a committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has been welcomed here as offering timely and pertinent advice.

The OECD committee, led by Dr Sven Moberg, a former Swedish Minister of Education, visited Australia last year. The other three members were Dr Korf Roeloffs of the West German Ministry of Education, Professor Gareth Williams from the department of education research at the University of Lancaster and Dr Benigno Reuben of Columbia University.

The committee's report concentrates on the transition of young people from school to work. Some of their findings were:

The needs of early school-leavers were largely neglected by a system geared to provide opportunities for potential leaders in the community, in industry, government and the professions.

Although the proportion of 16 and 17-year-olds staying on at school had risen appreciably since 1964, they were unlikely to get any worthwhile vocational training during that extra time at school.

Tongue trouble for the minorities

Michael Binyon, North American correspondent report on the growing controversy over bilingualism in American classrooms

Two and a half million children in the United States speak and write a language other than English. Overwhelmingly they are Spanish speakers, but they also include American Indians, Italian, French, Portuguese, Greek and Chinese speakers. How they should be educated and in what language is fast becoming a matter of considerable argument. The first shots have been fired already at the new target, bilingual education.

At no other time in America's history there would have been so many immigrants from all sides, from school to learn the language, culture and customs of their newly adopted country. More than any other institution, schools were the instrument for welding together children from different linguistic backgrounds, training out into the mainstream of society English-speaking Americans. No one questioned the melting-pot philosophy.

But with the rise of ethnic consciousness and the passage of the Civil Rights Act, a new social philosophy began to emerge. Instead of working for total assimilation for themselves and their children, linguistic minorities began to take pride in their heritage and demanded that their language be accorded official recognition.

At the same time, and for different reasons, educational officials and civil rights activists advocated the use of their languages in the classroom as a means of speeding up the education of children who could not speak English.

Both groups pushed for the concept of bilingual-bicultural education, a new money for pilot projects. So far \$37 million have been spent on demonstration projects. But the demand of Congress for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare develop and evaluate bilingual programmes which school districts could then adopt has never been met. Nothing has been properly planned or monitored. Eight years later the Office of Education still



No longer happy in the melting pot.

Spanish-speaking communities in New York, for example, are interpreting the goals of bilingual education as a means of creating a Spanish-speaking power base.

There is also the question of "Black English". Only recently has it been generally acknowledged that the English spoken in many black homes is so different from standard English—in syntax, vocabulary and idiom—that it is not understood by white people. School authorities have held back academically because they cannot communicate effectively. It has been suggested that "Black English" ought to be regarded as a separate dialect, and accepted as a means of communication, with standard English taught as a second language.

English has not always been the only language used in schools. For over half a century—until the First World War—parents in Cincinnati had the option of sending their children to schools that taught in French, Greek, Italian, Spanish and Polish for years. In the early 1960s a school in Miami began teaching Cuban exiles and Anglos in both Spanish and English—a true bilingual-bicultural programme.

But these schools were very much the exception. Technically, no many violated the law, since these few states that did specify the language of instruction in mandated English.

Only in the 1960s did minorities show that under this system their children were being bled to the bone. In many instances, the children, had high truancy and drop-out rates and did not go to college.

Though Congress voted funds for bilingual education in 1968 the real change in philosophy did not come till 1974. In that year the Supreme

And in Canada When second languages come first

WASHINGTON

One of the most cherished goals of Mr Trudeau's government has been the fostering of bilingualism among all Canadians, and one of the most important of all the federal-provincial programmes to do this at school level is the Second Language Minority Programme. This has been running for four years, and a bilingual professor of education at the University of Alberta has now been appointed to find out how well it is working.

Under the programme, university students spend up to eight hours a week helping second-language teachers in schools. French-speakers are placed in English schools, and vice-versa, though English-speakers are generally assigned to universities rather than schools in Quebec and New Brunswick.

Working rather like assistants in British schools, they conduct remedial work, holding conversation classes and giving first-hand knowledge of second-language culture.

There are now about 500 in Canada's 10 provinces. All volunteers, they are generally in their third and fourth year at university, and continue their university studies at the same time as working as monitors.

The Council of Ministers of Education recently asked Dr Douglas Parker, a specialist in language learning and teacher education of the University of Alberta, to evaluate the programme. His "pre-test" research is now complete, and the monitors and pupils will be tested this spring to establish the most effective conditions for fostering knowledge of a second language.

The monitor programme is not universal: teachers request monitors. But the main aim is to create cultural empathy, an explosive political issue at the moment of French-speakers in Quebec who elected a separatist government, and English-speakers increasingly resent Mr Trudeau's attempts to promote the use and knowledge of French in Anglophone Canada. For many schoolchildren, their only contact with the other official language of Canada is that with the monitor.

Teach in Europe

THE CENTRAL BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AID AND EXCHANGES is responsible for the recruitment of teachers of Modern Languages/European Studies who are of British nationality to appointments in various European countries. The majority of these appointments are initially for one year, but some may be extended at the discretion of the relevant country's Ministry of Education. The following posts are now available for the academic year 1977-78.

AUSTRIA: Up to 16 posts in all types of secondary schools. Applicants must have a degree and/or teaching certificate plus a good knowledge of German and be aged over 30. Salary AS 12,365.

BAVARIA: Up to 20 posts in Gymnasien in Bavaria. Applicants should have a degree and teaching certificate, with two years' experience of secondary level. Fluency in German is essential. Salary on scale DM 2,220-2,512 per month.

Further details and applications from the Central Bureau, Dept. A1/A, England House, Dorset Street, London W1P 3JF. Scotland: 3 Bruntsfield Crescent, Edinburgh EH10 4JF. Northern Ireland: Department of Education, Rattagel House, Belfast Road, Bangor, Co. Down.

Department of Education and Science, Scottish Education Department, Department of Education for Northern Ireland.

Budget leaves little scope for manoeuvre

from our own correspondent

WASHINGTON Less money for education, a consolidation of a whole host of separate federal education programmes, a cut in funds for bilingual education and more money for the education sector of the 1978 Budget presented by President Ford in his last week of office.

Many of its features were exactly the same as proposals he put forward last year, which were overturned by Congress. It is now up to Congress and Mr Carter to change or modify the detailed proposals before final appropriations are voted. In the overall context, the basic thrust of the proposals will probably be maintained.

Altogether, Mr Ford wanted to spend \$1,000m. For some spending levels as in 1977 (which would be a cut in real terms), these include adult education, "Head Start" (a programme for disadvantaged children), aid to schools in disadvantaged areas, career education, educational television and education for the gifted.

To other programmes there was a cut on what has been appropriated for this year: the "Right to Read" programme is down from \$2m to \$1.2m, so is art education and consumer education. No money is proposed for environment education, drug abuse education and grants for states trying to equalize their local school district patterns of finance. But the most important was a scale to consolidate 23 detailed and administratively cumbersome federal programmes voted over the years by Congress into block grants to the states, which, Mr Ford reminded people, are primarily responsible for education.

This proposal was defeated by Congress last year, but Mr Carter's new team has the urgent priority of simplifying the disparate government programmes. The idea might be better received this year.

In higher education the government's main involvement is the provision of student grants. This year's budget strengthens what has become the predominant pattern, the Basic Opportunity Grants awarded to students from low income families. More money is proposed for these—enough for over two million grants at an average of \$80 each.

Science does well in the Ford budget. Overall support is to go up 3 per cent in real terms. The National Science Foundation will receive \$88m, an increase of \$10m or 14 per cent on the figure appropriated for 1977.

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LETTERS

Dr Boyson must go

Sir.—To slip a pen in virid and attempt to out-abuse Dr Rhodes Boyson is an impossible task for an individual, but the time has arrived for individuals to drop differences and unite to destroy this dangerous demagogue. As a staunch Conservative, I am unashamed to take part in this destruction, because I equate Dr Boyson with Mr Wedgwood Benn in their harmful capabilities... I am a member of Cambridgeshire Education Committee, an authority known for progressive innovation...

Quality of schooling: a parent's view

Sir.—I would like, as a parent with four children still at school and an active member of my local PTA, to encourage one or two of the points made by Mrs Shirley Williams in her speech to the North of England Conference. Five years ago Leavis went comprehensive and introduced the three tier system—primary, middle and high schools. As a result of local government reorganisation it is now responsible for the education of 130,000 children.



Sunk by extra qualifications

Sir.—On finishing my teacher training in 1974 I found myself in the fortunate position of being able to choose between taking up a teaching post or going on to study for a higher degree. Despite the fortunate choice, however, I made the unfortunate decision (in terms of career prospects) of choosing the latter, and now I find myself scanning the small orbit of advertisements hoping to find something (indeed anything) that vaguely approximates my qualifications.

What we need to know about maths teaching

Sir.—The present interest in low educational standards is, I believe, gratifying to those who have devoted their careers to the less able, especially in maths. When children in the 7-11 IQ range are found unable to manage late basic fundamentals and processes after 10 years of schooling, the public and in particular parents place the blame upon the children first and their teachers second.

Dangerous testing ground

Sir.—May I be permitted to air the flames of the controversy surrounding the validity of the Mountain Leadership Certificate? The British Mountaineering Council argue that "the certificate produces a false safety standard" because it is based on a "lack of ability" on the part of holders of this piece of paper to appreciate the physiological limitations of children in their care, rather than a lack of experience in a particular area.

Heads to blame for bandwagon

Sir.—Three cheers for Mr Robert Cook, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers (December 31), who says that teachers should resist using untried classroom methods just because someone tells them it is the up-to-date thing to do. I think that many teachers would be only too willing to resist climbing on to modern bandwagons, but it is surely the head teachers, many of whom Mr Cook represents, who are guilty of imposing non-aimed classes, activity methods and other manifestations of progressivism upon the schools.

Carelessness can cost candidates dearly

Sir.—In my much publicized letter (November 19) I was not arguing for "pedantic" and old-fashioned business English, but one of your correspondents has taken it as an exception that there is a conflict between correctness and brevity/vitality. I do expect teachers of English to be able to make a distinction between written and spoken language, and the British Council report that "written language has to take on a precision and complexity of linguistic structure that is not demanded of speech."

Facts of illegitimacy

Sir.—Margaret White, of the Order of Christian Unity (December 31), writes that the illegitimate birthrate is soaring and that this constitutes a crisis which requires "Christian action". In fact, the illegitimate birthrate has levelled off at between 8 and 9 per cent for the past decade and in terms of actual numbers is falling fast. In 1967 there were nearly 70,000 illegitimate births, last year only 15,000 fewer. In the 1975 annual report of the chief medical officer it is pointed out that premeditated illegitimacy has also declined strikingly in the past few years.

Standing on their own two feet

Sir.—The act of sending your children to state schools includes the certain knowledge that you are accepting your community's provision for the education of its children, with all that implies in terms of advantage and disadvantage. It means that you have the advantage of state authority, in terms, among other things, of inspection, to ensure reasonable standards (Editorial, January 7) or arrangements to organize the school day to save money over dinners, if this is so desired (Letter, January 7).

Film studies: getting criticism in focus

Sir.—If Stanley Reed had taken the trouble to consult us before writing his misleading article on "The Visual Revolution" (January 7) we could perhaps have put him right on a number of points. The activities of the Society for Education in Film and Television are not limited to the publication of the magazine Screen—which is indeed primarily a journal of film theory. The society also publishes Screen Education which is more directly concerned with the questions facing practising teachers, particularly at the secondary level.

contacts in all sectors and levels of education with teachers of film and related subjects, and has in progress many groups, projects and courses in different parts of the country. Its influence on approaches to the teaching of the subject during the 1960's, during much of which Stanley Reed was the BFI's director, and now in the 1970's, was and is very great, arguably greater than that of any other single agency. As a single simple example, two of the papers which "constitute the core of the course" described by Terry Norris in another article in the same issue, were disseminated through the EAS and (a fact which the article fails to mention) are available from it. Second, the BFI supports the Society for Education in Film and Television, historically and currently the largest professional organization of film/television teachers in the United Kingdom, as a grant in aid organization (as it does the British Universities Film Council and the British Federation of Film Societies).

How to keep up to date

Sir.—Mr Cole (January 14) ought to be aware that the medical profession has a first class support system for doctors. Added to this most doctors receive professional journals. If teachers are not of date regarding methods and curriculum I would suggest that it is (a) because the support system is inadequate; (b) lack of initiative on the part of the teacher. Nevertheless, the weakness of the idea put forward by Mr Cole is that we might have teachers up to date in teaching methods, but unable to teach. In that case, teachers need more technical assistance, a government report, if I am not mistaken, in this regard has taken steps to reveal the needs of about 15 per cent of the child population.

Where the axe is likely to fall on colleges

Sir.—Andrew Segal's so-called information, January 14, about which London establishments will suffer the elimination of their initial seating programme, may or may not turn out to be correct. However, journalistic reputation has to be judged by its predictions, not just by facts, and in one respect the article "Where the axe is likely to fall" is not far off the facts with regard to Sidney Webb's not having problems with his BEd validation. CMAA has approved its pre-service BEd (5-13 age range) for the admission of students in September, 1977.

Rote not right for slow learners

Sir.—Professor Bunnor (January 14) and those who share his views seem to depend upon the belief that it is possible to teach slow children things by rote which can then be used by them in other situations. I have found it impossible to rote teach maths to slow children. If they do not understand it, they cannot do it. On the other hand, quicker children can learn complicated algorithms by rote and find it pleasant to have the underlying mathematical processes explained to them. Perhaps the quicker children, reinforced by previous successes, are not afraid of the jump in the dark required by the rote approach to problems. I am not sure about this, but the matter could do with closer scrutiny.

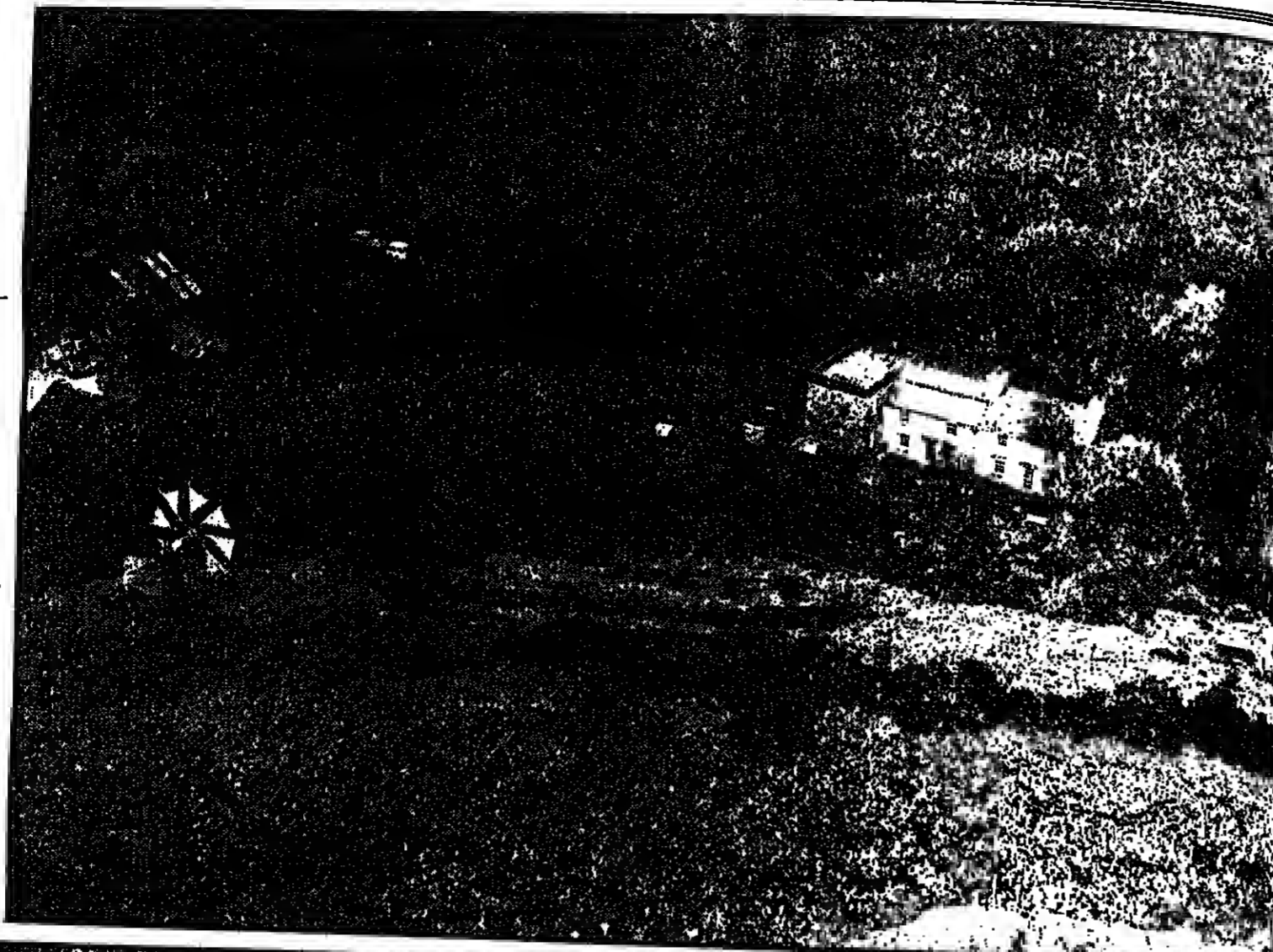
Advertisement for Spanish language courses: '¿Le gustaria dar clase en España durante un año o un trimestre?' Includes contact information for The Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'مكتبة' (Library)

Living within our means

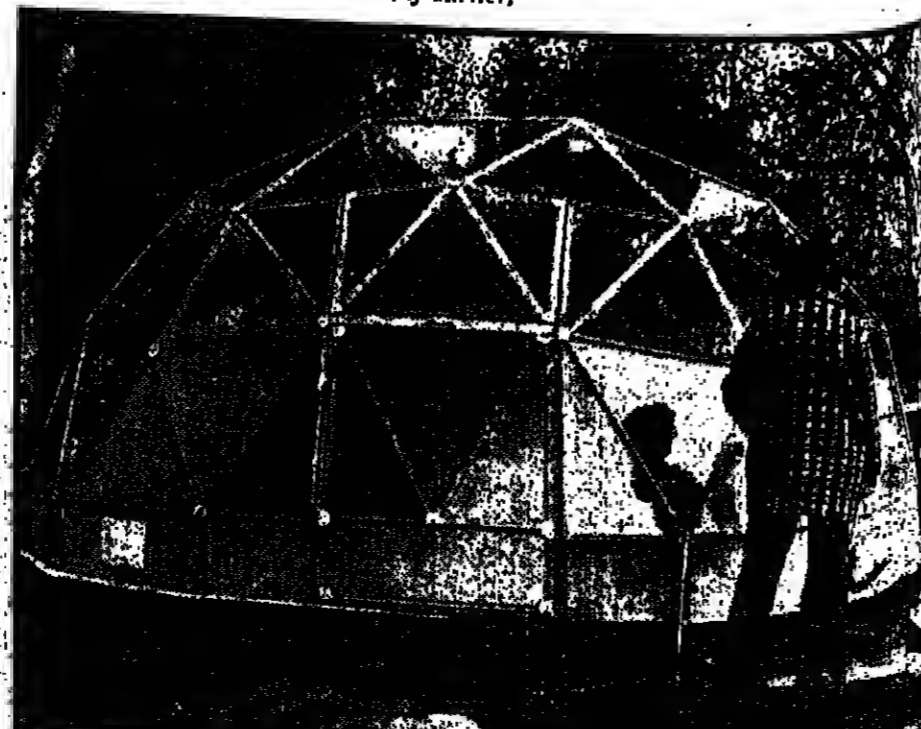
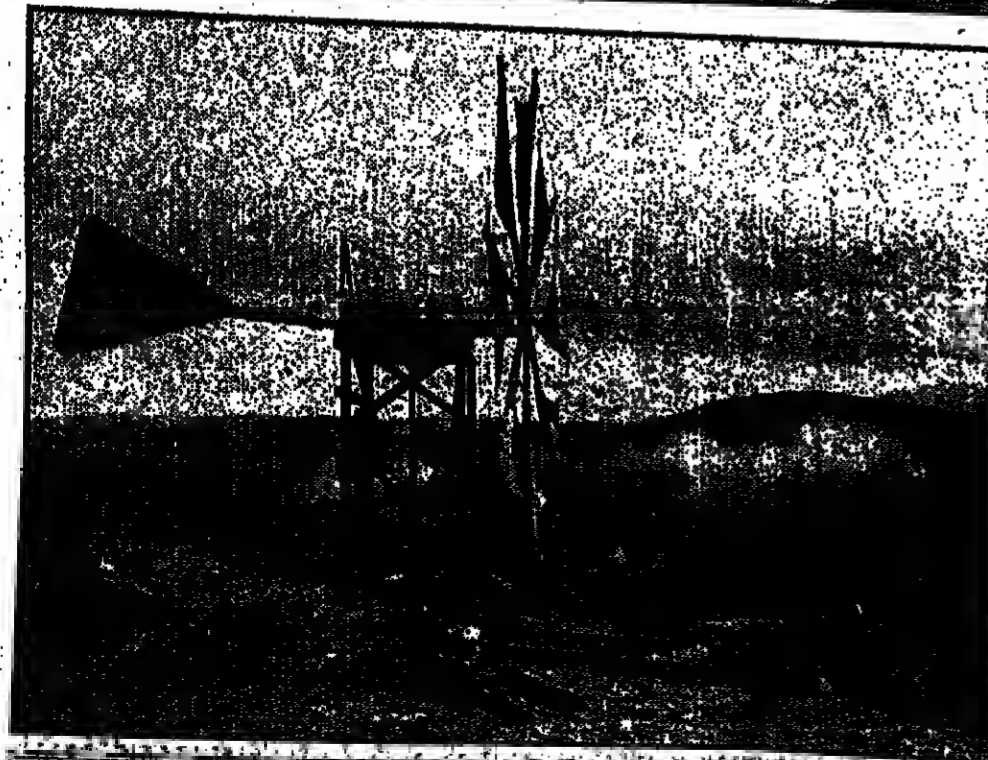
The Centre for Alternative Technology in Powys, Wales, houses a project which aims to show 'that people can live happily on limited material resources, producing a minimum of waste and pollution, but without returning to the hardships of the past.'

Photographs by Jonathan Player



- Above: The cottages which accommodate the project's staff were rebuilt from ruins, and incorporate wind power, sun power and energy-saving principles in the design.
- Left: Robert James, the Project Director, and Robert Todd, the Technical Director, on the polystyrene and polyurethane heat store. The store can hold 25,000 gallons, and is fed by warm water from the solar panneling on the exhibition hall roof, which in turn provides underfloor heating.
- Below left: A Cretan-type wind machine overlooking the cottages: built of wood and canvas, it can produce up to 700 watts in a 23 mph wind.
- Below right: the domed tank, heated by solar panels, improves the growth rate of fishes.

The Centre—at Llwyngwern Quarry, Machynlleth, Powys, Wales—is open daily from 10 to 5, or dusk, if earlier.



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Classified Advertisements

Index to Appointments Vacant, Wanted and other classifications

Appointments vacant	Secular Education	Special Education	Other than by Subjects	Colleges of Education	Appointments wanted
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Nursery Education

Headships

NEWHAM
London Borough of Newham
Headship of Nursery School
Headship of Infant School
Headship of Junior School
Headship of Primary School
Headship of Special School
Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

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Other Appointments

CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Cambridge Education
Appointments for various educational roles in the Cambridge area.

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Primary Education

Headships

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Education Services
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Headship of Special School
Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

WALTHAM FOREST
London Borough of Waltham Forest
Headship of Primary School
Headship of Junior School
Headship of Special School
Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

COVENTRY (City of)
Coventry Education
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Headship of Junior School
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Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

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The charge for advertising in all classifications is 60p per line (minimum 2 lines). Display in classified advertisements £3.80 per single column (minimum space 9.5 cm double column at £72.20).

A charge of 30p is made for Box Number facilities.

Advertisements published in the Scottish edition only will be subject to a 25 per cent discount on the above rates.

Advertisements received by Monday will be published in the following Friday's issue subject to availability of space. Copy should be sent to:
The Advertisement Manager,
The Times Educational Supplement,
New Printing House Square,
Gray's Inn Road, London,
WC1X 8EZ.

by Monday for the following Friday's issue.

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London Borough of Brent
Headship of Primary School
Headship of Junior School
Headship of Special School
Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

BROMLEY
London Borough of Bromley
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Headship of Junior School
Headship of Special School
Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
Windsor Education
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Headship of Junior School
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Headship of Technical School
Headship of Other than by Subjects

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HEADSHIP

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Salary: Head Teacher Scale Group 4 and a London Allowance of £237 is payable together with a special allowance of £312. The Social Priority Allowance applies at the present time, but may be subject to any variation made by the Burnham Committee.

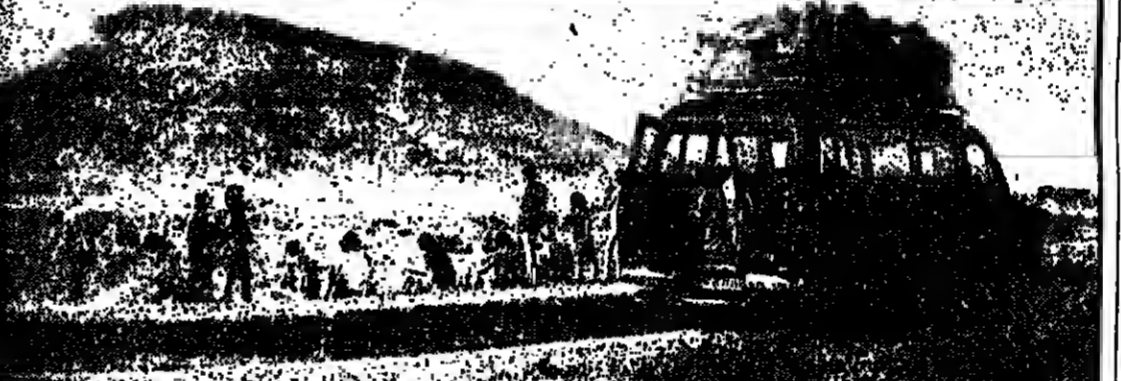
Reasonable removal expenses will be reimbursed (details on request).

Application forms and further details from the Director of Education, Education Department (TAS), Teahome House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 1TP.

Closing date: Friday 18th February, 1977.

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EXPEDITIONS UNLIMITED

V. A. Johnson

make a study of the rapidly declining and rising costs, there is an expansion in schools across the land. All corners of the globe with expense spared.

The inflation which attacked expeditions in 1975 raised their costs by 25 per cent between initial planning stages and their fulfilment. Some projects were abandoned, others dramatically pruned.

Almost invariably 1976 was a year of fewer expeditions left on foot; those that did largely limited themselves to Norway and the 'Cot War' politics never to intervene.

Charterhouse reached a little known area in the Himalayas where it set up a School, Cambridge, carried out a highly organized and well planned expedition to the terrain of Spitzbergen. These were a few in 1976 but for 1977 a year when the Young Explorers Trust is struggling to survive through lack of financial support, it has had a 50 per cent increase in applications for expeditions will not be entirely without merit even in the absence of the Trust.

It is a long time since the door for these expeditions was closed through the intervention of the West Africa (see page 37) and their 1975 academic studies in Quebec, a party from Haberdashers' Aske School, in Hetcham, will make a return visit in the coming summer. Even further afield, Hinderfield New College aim to reach Alaska. They will then undertake a series of expeditions between Aochorage and the far north coast.

The academic content will focus on soil and vegetation surveys while the adventurous element will include a 60-mile hike in the Brooks Range. Also in North America, King's School, Rochester, will attempt to reach Nain in Labrador. A joint expedition from Clifton College and Westminster School will be returning to the ice cap and periglacial regions of Baifin Island.

Expeditions planning to visit warmer climates are even more impressive for their variety and scope. Dundie will be mountaineering and collecting both geological and biological samples in the Hindu Kush region of Afghanistan. Ampleforth have a purely mountaineering project destined for Indian Kashmir.

A Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition plans to spend next Christmas in Kenya, while more distant expeditions will spend next summer in Sri Lanka and in Sabah.

The Sri Lanka expedition is from two comprehensive schools, Thornbury Castle School, and Croesallog School, Cwmbran. Together with some Sri Lankan students they will undertake a geographical tour through the mountainous central part of this monsoon island and

Feel free! (Take a party to France.)

Yes, as the leader of a party of 15 or more fare-paying passengers you travel completely free. Which is something to think about. Your students can get substantial fare reductions too! Up to 40% off for 10 or more travelling together—see these and other facilities below.

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30% off the return fare too, for undergraduates travelling to a holiday course at a French University, subject to certain conditions.

Budget Holidays in Paris and the French Riviera. Ask for details of these 'all-in' holidays, run in conjunction with French Railways.

Don't forget, midweek travel means extra comfort.



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- * return travel by Laker Airways jet from Gatwick Airport
- * bed-and-breakfast hotel accommodation (youth hostel in Munich)
- * transfers between destination airport and hotels
- * all airport taxes
- * one free piece per 15 students.

City	Departure dates	Length of stay	Price per person
Copenhagen	Feb 10	3 nights	£80.50
Liebnitz	Mar 25	3 nights	£48.50
Munich	Feb 25	3 nights	£48.50
Paris	Feb 18, Mar 4; May 18, Apr 1	2 nights	£36.50
Vienna	Feb 11	3 nights	£65.50

AEROCRUISE Laker Aircraft Consolidation Ltd., Gatwick Airport—London, Horley, Surrey, Tel: 01-898 9663



SCOTTISH YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION for hostel holidays. S.A.E. for details of our Ski Schools, Breakaway Adventure Holidays, and Highland Wayfarer Holiday Packs to SYHA, 7 Gleba Crescent, Stirling FK8 2JA.

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Sumburgh Head, the southernmost tip of Shetland, crowned by its lighthouse. In the foreground is Jarlshof, sixteenth-century house on top of prehistoric chambers.

AN AIR OF INFINITE LEISURE David Anderson introduces the Shetland Islands

The land of one's birth is difficult to describe. So much of the inner individual landscape of mind and personality is conditioned by the nature that it is hard to tell where one ends and the other begins. What you have always taken for granted will be quite extraordinary in somebody else.

On the southernmost tip of the archipelago in Sumburgh Head, with its lighthouse and modern airport. Close by is one of the most remarkable archaeological sites ever excavated in this country.

Nearby on the small island of Musselburgh is a splendid broch, those great towers found throughout northern Scotland which appear to date from the first century AD.

On Foula, 17 miles out to the west, a (literally) cliff-hanging film was made in the 1930s, called 'The Edge of the World'. It feels like 'that' one of the cliffs is among Britain's highest, rising sheer 1,200 feet.

For further information regarding advertising contact David Hunt at 56 Hanover Street, Edinburgh EH2 2DZ, or telephone 031-42255875.

HIGHLAND PLAYGROUND

Dudley Wilson on summer activity holidays in the Cairngorms

Opinions differ sharply about the Aviemore resort complex. Some consider its concrete, packaged amenities and year round Santo Claus land as Blackpool translated to the Highlands. This is regarded as unwarranted intrusion, needless exploitation of wild beauty.

Such enterprising development can, however, easily be missed: I managed to drive through Aviemore two years running without noticing the famous centre. On reflection I did manage to recall the Strathspey Hotel building looming impressively over Spey Valley in some modern version of a traditional Scottish keep.

It is also a fact that those facilities (with others such as a Planetarium envisaged) are enthusiastically patronized by thousands grateful for centralized family activities, especially in poor weather.

My own favourite way of reaching Aviemore winter or summer is by Motorail to Inverness overnight followed by a leisurely 30-mile drive south in time for breakfast.

During summer I sampled a package arranged by Aviemore Chalets Motel to discover how instructional, equipment and organization measured up to the magnificent challenge of the surroundings.

First, something about the rhapsodies themselves which are well maintained, comfortable, for four persons with double washbasin and private lavatory in each unit.

At the end of several months of intermittent labour, the reward is a year's free fuel from the solar night-sun months of June and July.

At the end of several months of intermittent labour, the reward is a year's free fuel from the solar night-sun months of June and July.

school at Insh and his wife back after hanks, rods, flies and tackle in the shop. Here the merits of hand-poured fibre glass and other new-fangled substances are finally sorted out.

My day's fishing passed in a flush despite showers, chill wind, hot spells of assured Scottish unobscured weather.

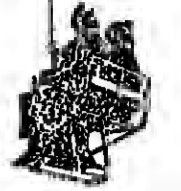
No visit to Aviemore would be complete without a chairlift ride to the top station on Cairngorm, a mere 500 ft then to the 4,084 ft summit.

Wayfarers, good teaching boats, are used and well looked after. Instructors use the new national coaching methods with a syllabus set down by the RYA.

As for hill walking, possibilities are limitless. Still the finest, single-day outdoor walk in the land must be over the Lairig Ghru Pass to Linn of Dee where transport should be waiting to ferry your party back.

For full details of costs and availability write to Horry, Abraham, Chalets Motel, Aviemore, Inverness-shire. Outdoor activity packages other than winter sports, are available for schools in May, June and October.

Journey in the Sky to Cairngorm Summit



Summer and Winter you can ride by Chairlift to the upper slopes of Cairngorm (4,084ft.). From the bottom terminal the Coira Cae chairlift (2,200ft.), rises in two sections to a height of 3,600 feet.

For further information regarding facilities and restaurants on Cairngorm write to R. M. Clyde, M.B.E., General Manager, Cairngorm Sports Development Ltd., Aviemore. Tel. Cairngorm 281/282.

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All to be found in Enjoy Scotland '77, the free brochure about the places where you can have the time of your life canning, walking, climbing, sailing, golfing, fishing, touring, swimming, riding, sightseeing, and picnicking in Scotland this summer.

Form for requesting the 'Enjoy Scotland '77' brochure, including fields for Name, Address, and a tick box for a special offer pack.

Aviemore Chalets Motel and Cairnsport Centre advertisement. Special Offer in School Groups. Environmental Studies and Action Sport Inclusive Holidays. Includes contact information and dates.

Cruise on the Paddle Steamer 'Maid of the Loch'. One of the few paddle steamers still in service, the MAID OF THE LOCH sails daily from Batoch Pier (28 May until 10 September) offering a selection of cruises on the beautiful loch.

Highland Holidays advertisement. Located in the heart of the Cairngorms, fully equipped, double chalets, central situated, open all year.

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For brochure telephone 01-229 9484 or write:

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This week in the TLS. Cosimo Wagner, Montigliano, Lady Conil, Restoration Drama.

BOOKS FOR OVER THE BORDER

By F. W. Kellaway

The uninitiated who have never been north of the border, often profess strange ideas about Scotland. Even tourists, who confine their sightseeing to such features as Edinburgh Castle, Loch Lomond and Crathie Church have not really gained a true picture.

Not that there is anything amiss with these places; there is just so much more, and in such diversity. Ideas on what might otherwise be unheeded can be found in some recent books. For example, the two volumes by Tom Weir, 'The Scottish Lochs' (Constable, £2 each), represent a remarkable bargain.

Especially north for us Mr Weir points out, this is still largely unknown territory, yet with more to offer than some of the popular parts. 'In the Uists, for example, where the trout, sea-trout and salmon fishing has the quality of legend, there are half a dozen lochs unfished for every one fished'.

There is, indeed, much here about the northern and western isles, and about fishing (even to hotels and petrol fests); and there is authoritative information about wild life and plant life, geological characteristics, recommended routes for walkers, and conservation.

Above all, there is a flowing text which conveys the character of the lochs and their surroundings, and this is accompanied and complemented by many scores of the most effective and evocative photographs available anywhere. The whole country is covered, with all those lochs which can support a freshwater fishery included.

Only just issued, and with a completely different story, but equally reliable, is William Taylor's 'The Military Roads in Scotland' (David & Charles, £4.95). The time is set in the introduction. 'There has been a tendency in Scotland to attribute to the Romans or to General Wolfe any road or bridge of obvious antiquity. In either case the attribution is more than likely to be wrong.

GET BY VISITS AND EXCHANGES. Fortunately The Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges annual School Travel and Exchange guide has an excellent index. Without it the user would be lost in the mass of invaluable information.

impatience is a vice in the Highlands, which can only be enjoyed at leisure'.

The Ward Lock books are probably intended for less devoted visitors who want primarily to know how to get from place to place, and what to see on a relatively brief stay. They are worthily catered for, with concise indications of the joys of Oban or Taherany, excursions to and from Stormary, the layout of Fort William, and the like.

Splendid pictures of Highlands and Lowlands, towns and country, are in 'Beautiful Scotland' (Batsford, 99p), by W. H. Murray. Apart from a minor quibble that more than 50 plates are desirable to show the gamut, there can be nothing but praise for this collection.

Similarly, only an absence of colour prevents an unreserved praise of 'Scotland from the Air' (Heinemann Educational, £2.20), by Ann Glen and Michael Williams, in which nearly 100 oblique aerial photographs, each with a commentary, reveal the industry, structure and potential of the whole country.

But, if a single new volume could convey an overall flavour, it might be H. V. Morton's 'The Splendour of Scotland' (Eyre Methuen, £4.95), in which some of his most appealing work is reprinted alongside scores of quite magnificent plates, mostly in full colour. Morton's writings, now nearly half-a-century old, still represent the eternal verities, and emphasize a realistic sense of values.

Social conditions now are so different. There is no hint, naturally enough, of oil in these pages, nor extension to industrial development generally, though fishing has a fair mention. There is little in this selection about tourism, or the crazy impact of cars and coaches on roads never intended, and quite unimproved, for them.

The great virtues, and the human follies, of the Scottish Highlands, have their place also. Any tendency to 'indolence or procrastination' is deflected by the Highland saying 'when God made time, He made any amount of it', and this is supported, nearly 200 pages later, by the sage advice that

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ST. HELEN'S RC (JM&I) SCHOOL. Headship. Headteacher required for September, 1977, owing in retirement of the present headmistress.

Application forms obtainable from and returnable to the Reverend Correspondent, 6 Kinross Close S119 0TQ. Closing date for return of completed application forms 11 February.

ilea

KENTISH TOWN CHURCH CE (JM&I) SCHOOL. Headship. Head Teacher required (Church of England Communion) for September 1977.

Please send stamped addressed envelope for application form to Rev. V. C. Knupper, Kentish Town Vicarage, 16 Burghley Road, N1V 1UE. Closing date for return of completed application forms 11 February.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH INFANT SCHOOL. HEAD TEACHER. GROUP 4. Applications are invited from experienced teachers for the post of HEAD TEACHER.

County of Cleveland PRIMARY SCHOOL. HEAD TEACHER (GROUP 6). HAREWOOD INFANT SCHOOL. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the above post which will become vacant from September, 1977.

County of Cleveland PRIMARY SCHOOL. HEAD TEACHER (GROUP 6). Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the above post which will become vacant from September, 1977.

County of Cleveland PRIMARY SCHOOL. HEAD TEACHER (GROUP 6). Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the above post which will become vacant from September, 1977.

PRIMARY Headships. ENFIELD. Headship of the Infant School. Application forms obtainable from the Headmistress, 100 High Street, Enfield, London N11 1AA.

ENFIELD. Headship of the Infant School. Application forms obtainable from the Headmistress, 100 High Street, Enfield, London N11 1AA.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE. Headship of the Infant School. Application forms obtainable from the Headmistress, 100 High Street, Enfield, London N11 1AA.

NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL Education Department. HEADS for: (1) Garboldisham V.C. School (Group 2), (2) Stoke Holy Cross V.C. School (Group 3), (3) Aylsham V.C. Junior (to become Middle) School.

DEPUTY HEAD for: Thurlton C.P. School (Group 1). Application forms and further details from County Education Officer, County Hall, Norwich NR1 2DL.

Derbyshire headships. Applications are invited from suitably qualified primary teachers for the Headship of the following schools: Bramley Vale Primary School (near Chesterfield) 317 Children GROUP 5.

Hardwick Junior Boys Derby 295 Children GROUP 5. Beaufort Infant Derby 270 Children GROUP 4. Ashgate Junior Derby 386 Children GROUP 6.

Ash Croft Primary School 'Sinfm, Derby New school opening September, 1977 or January, 1978 with 100 N.O.R. Initially rising to approximately 245. GROUP 4. Closing date 11th February, 1977.

HAMPSHIRE. ROWLEGE C.E. (CONTROLLED) FIRST SCHOOL. Applications are invited from suitably qualified primary teachers for the post of Headteacher for the above school.

WEEKS COUNTY INFANTS SCHOOL. Applications are invited from suitably qualified primary teachers for the post of Headteacher for the above school.

SILCHESTER C.E. (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL. Applications are invited from suitably qualified primary teachers for the post of Headteacher for the above school.

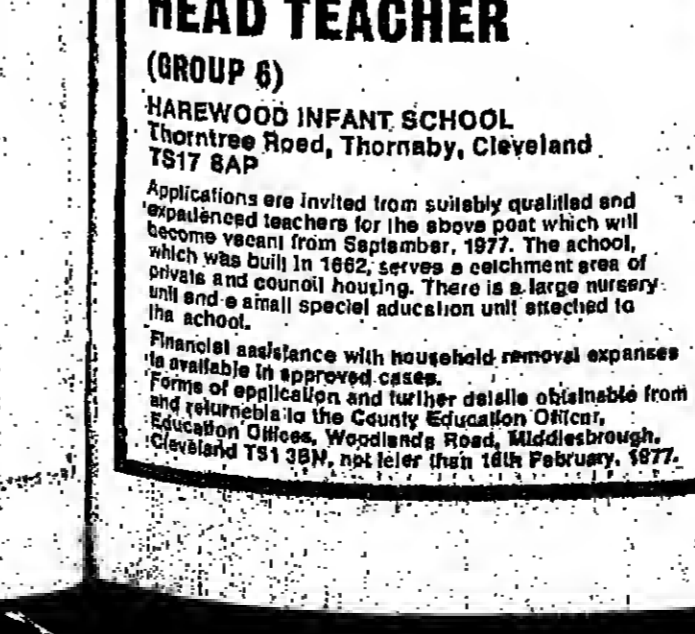
NORTHERN PARADE FIRST SCHOOL. Applications are invited from suitably qualified primary teachers for the post of Headteacher for the above school.

Wintersports Quick Tickets. When you want to leave the country in a hurry.

Table listing winter sports quick tickets with columns for departure, room/hotel, operator, and price.

After all this is the Country Index where, beginning with Albania and proceeding to Yugoslavia, the opportunities in each country are given under specific headings - Multi-activity, Arts, Exchanges, Homestays and paying guest visits, Sports, Study tours and Youth visits.

Wintersports Quick Tickets. When you want to leave the country in a hurry. This is the latest on Quick Ticket holidays. All prices are guaranteed final, so ring Thomson Holidays but quick.



We take the care. You're free to enjoy yourself.

Inner London Education Authority Specialist Vacancies for Secondary Teachers

Commerce (Office Skills) Design and Technology French (Full and Part Time) Home Economics (Part Time only) Needlework (Part Time only)

Appointments will be to a Scale 1 post in the Authority's General Teaching Service, Inner London allowance (£402) payable in addition to the Burnham salary.

For an application form, please write to the Education Officer (TS2), The County Hall, London SE1 7PB (telephone 01-633 6426).

Metropolitan Borough of Stockport Assistant Principal Careers Officer £4,239-£4,842 plus £312 p.a. supplement

Secondary Required from May 1st, 1977 (a September appointment may be considered) Head of Geography

Secondary Required from May 1st, 1977 (a September appointment may be considered) Head of French

Secondary Required from 18th April, 1977, for one term. Head of English

Required for September, 1977. Primary Comprehensive School, Herby, Llan, Romiley Head of French

Scale 3. An experienced teacher to organise the teaching of French at all levels including University entrance.

Advertisement Required for 1st May, 1977 (a September appointment may be considered) Head of Department - Mathematics

Application forms from the Director of Education, Town Hall, Stockport (quoting reference) and return to the Headteacher by 11th February, 1977, unless otherwise stated.

Surrey County Council

Posts of Responsibility Comprehensive Dorking, The Ashcombe

Godalming, Broadwater County Secondary Head of Music, Scale 3

Horley County Secondary Languages or Technical Subjects of Science

Leatherhead, Therfield Head of Chemistry capable of organising examination work

Redhill, St. Bede's (Anglican and Roman Catholic, N.D.R. 1,100)

Woking, The Winston Churchill County Secondary Modern Languages

Scale 1 Posts Ashford, Abbotsford County Secondary Mathematics teacher

Dorking, The Ashcombe Geography and Mathematics

Warlingham County Secondary Needlework

Waltham on Thames, Rydens County Secondary Boys' Crew

Scale 1 Posts Mid Glamorgan County Council Teaching Staff

Teacher of Computer Science at the Mid Glamorgan Schools Computer Centre

Experience in Commercial Data Processing would be an advantage

Application forms to be returned by 9th February, 1977

Further information will be supplied to applicants

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County of South Glamorgan

Deputy Head Teacher: Group 13

Physical Education Heads of Department

Essex Dayvant Foundation

Avon County Physical Education

Devon Devon County Council

Hillingdon Hillingdon Borough Council

Staffordshire Staffordshire Education Authority

Walsall Metropolitan Borough

Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough

Walsall Metropolitan Borough

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Secondary continued Gloucestershire

Waltham Forest Waltham Forest Education Committee

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